

Remarks/Arguments

In the specification, paragraph [0104] has been amended to correct a typographical error and to provide antecedent basis in the specification for claim 65. Support for the amendment to paragraph [0104] exists in claim 65, which provides “a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of any one of claims 32, 40, 50, 51, 54, 56, 58, and 63 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.” As recited, claims 32, 40, 50, 51, 54, 56, 58, and 63 refer to Formulas III, IV, IVc, V, VI, VII, VIII, and IX, respectively. Further, paragraph [0105] of the specification has been amended to correct minor typographical errors.

Additionally, paragraph [0114] of the specification has been amended to clarify characteristics of Figure 4. Support for this amendment resides on page 67, paragraph [0371], which states “Figure 4 shows results from representative assays for human TNF-alpha (black bars) and IL-12 p40 (gray bars) presented as the % LPS (1 µg/mL) activity.”

In the Examples section of the specification, the structure in Example 20 of Table 1 has been detached from its cell during formatting. The amendment has been entered to reattach the Example compound with its cell.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-23, 25-28, 30-39, 41-49, 51-55, 57-62, 64, 66, and 67 remain in this application as previously presented. Claims 24 and 29 have been cancelled without prejudice and applicants expressly reserve the right to file divisional applications or other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the material covered therein. The remaining claims have been amended (explanations follow) and claims 72-74 are newly added.

Claim 2 has been amended herein to correct a minor typographical mistake, namely changing “An composition” to “A composition” in the preamble and to replace “optionally substituted heterocyclyl” with “heterocyclyl, substituted heterocyclyl” as members of the Y' and Y” markush group. Support for these changes resides on page 20, paragraphs 167 and 168, which refers to “heterocyclyl, substituted heterocyclyl” groups for Y' and Y”, as amended.

Claim 6 has been amended to include a -C(O)O- group in the definition of X. Support for the modification to X resides on page 18, paragraph [0147], wherein "X is absent or... -C(O)O-..." referring to the compound of Formula II. Also claim 6 has been amended to include -OCH₃ in the definition of Y'. Support for the addition to Y' exists on page 18, paragraph [0150], wherein "preferably Y' is absent or... -OCH₃..." Additionally, an alternative to the previously presented definition of Y, Y', and Y'' has been added wherein "if Y' is alkoxy, Y'' is halogen or alkyl; or if Y is pyrazolyl, then Y' is aryl..." Support for the amendment resides on page 19, paragraph 156, wherein alternative embodiments to the previously presented definitions of Y are: "if Y' is alkoxy, Y'' is halogen..." or "if Y' is alkoxy, Y'' is alkyl" or "if Y is pyrazolyl, then Y' is aryl."

Claim 40 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error, wherein the second, sequential Y' group has been updated to reflect its intended identity as Y''.

Claim 50 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error, wherein "n is an integer from 1 to 3" instead of "n is an integer from 1 [and] 3." See, for example, the compound of Example 93 in Table 1, which is a compound of Formula IVc, wherein n=2.

Claim 56 has been amended, without prejudice, to exclude compounds of Formula VII, wherein "R is nitro and Z is H."

Claim 63 has been amended to introduce the limitations of dependent claim 65. Additionally, claim 63 has been amended to include a previously omitted definition of R'. Support for the R' definition resides on page 25, paragraph [0213] of the specification.

Claims 65 and 68 have been amended to exclude the dependency of claims 63 and 65, respectively, due to aforementioned insertion of limitations of dependent claim 65 into claim 63. Furthermore, claim 68 has been amended to bring it in line with proper multiple dependent claim format.

Newly added claim 72 is the same claim as the previously presented claim 56, with the additional limitation of claim 65.

Claim 73 is newly added and supported on page 13, paragraph [0115], which provides "a method of inducing an immunostimulatory effect in a patient comprising administering a thiosemicarbazone compound in an amount effective to stimulate a cell-mediated immune response."

Finally, newly added claim 74 provides a group of thiosemicarbazone compounds, which are listed in Table 1 within the Examples section.


Also, a "Request for Approval to Make Drawing Changes" with drawings attached thereto is enclosed. The amended drawings include finalized versions of Figures 1 and 4, which replace the original sheets. Both sheets have been added to make formal the informalities of the preexisting sheets. If possible, it would be preferred that these sheets supplant the preexisting figures in the publication of the application.

It is believed that no new matter is added by way of this Amendment. Applicants respectfully request that the above amendments be entered and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of the case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned agent at (510) 923-7319 so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: January 14, 2005

By 
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CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First-Class Mail on 1/14/05 in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.ow.

Mary L. Swann
Signature

January 14, 2005
Date

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: BARSANTI et al.

Confirmation No.: 8570

U.S. Application No. 10/748,071

Filing Date: December 29, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Unassigned

For: THIOSEMICARBAZONES AS ANTI-VIRALS AND
IMMUNOPOTENTIATORS

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROPOSED DRAWING CHANGES

Sir:

Applicant hereby requests the Examiner's approval of the following proposed changes to the Figures in the above-identified application. For the Examiner's convenience, a set of replacement drawings are attached, as well as a copy of the original drawing sheets indicating the desired changes in red.


Amendments to the Drawings

The attached "replacement" sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1 and 4. These sheets, which include finalized versions of Figures 1 and 4, replace the original sheets. Both sheets have been added to make formal the informalities of the preexisting sheets. Additionally, for clarification, the brief description of the drawings has been amended to describe the separate values set forth for each compound tested. The rest of the figures will remain as previously presented.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of the case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned agent at (510) 923-7319 so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

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Applicants: Zhi-Jie Ni et al.

Title: THIOSEMICARBAZONES AS ANTI-VIRALS AND
IMMUNOPOTENTIATORS

Filing Date: Herewith

Atty: Michael A. Patané

Serial No. Not yet assigned

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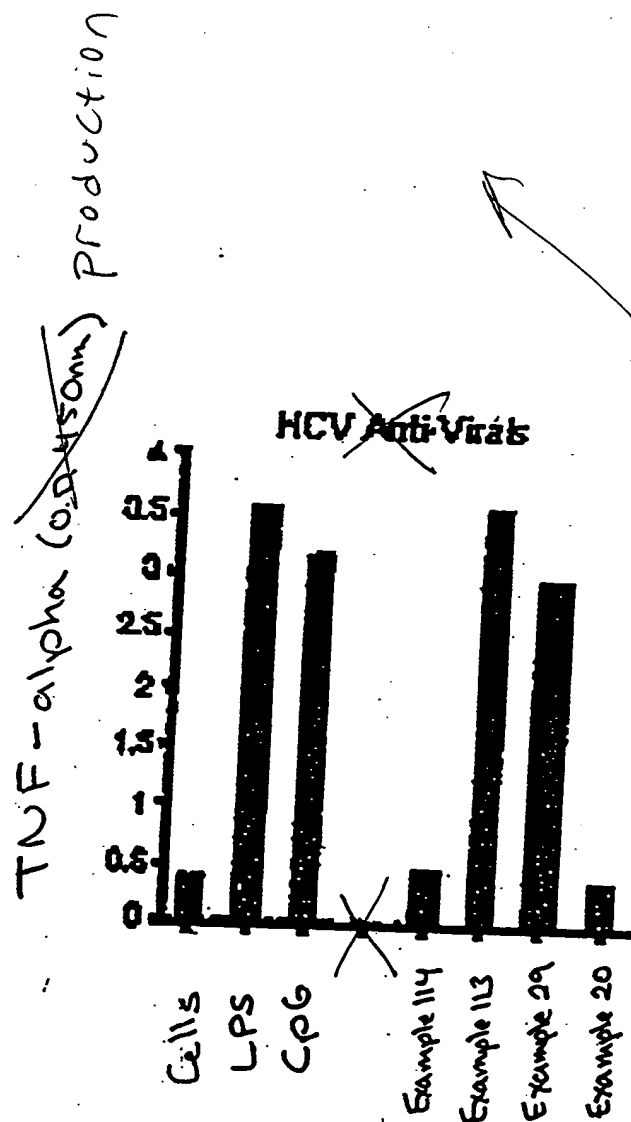


FIGURE 1

Applicant: Zhi-Jie Ni et al.

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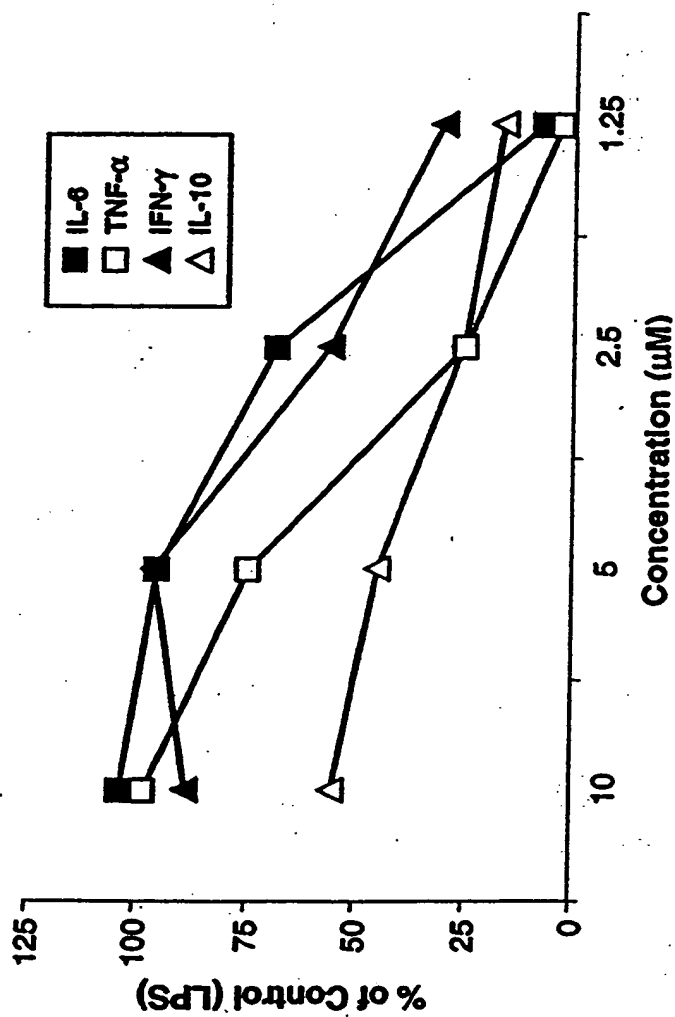


FIGURE 2

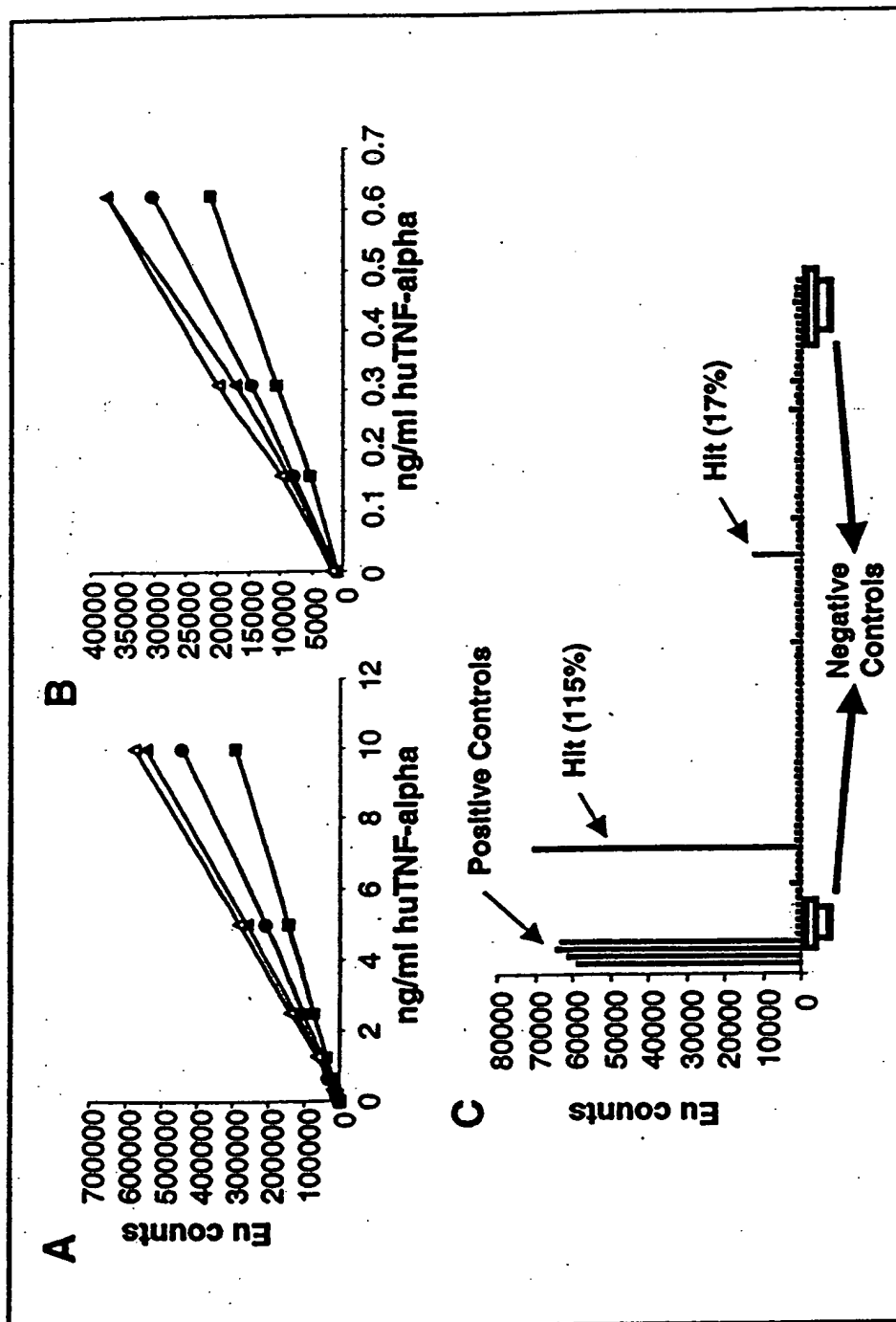


FIGURE 3

FIGURE 4

